

Eastern Arizona Amateur Radio Society

EST. 1974

www.eaars.com

INC.



facebook.com/groups/eaars

Club Address: EAARS, PO Box 398, Solomon, AZ 85551



February, 2023

JOIN EAARS on Facebook

EAARS has a presence on Facebook and you are invited to **JOIN** the page. This is a great media to quickly share news, photos and events that are EAARS related or might be interesting to the members. If you utilize "Notifications" on the EAARS Facebook page, you can receive club updates AS THEY HAPPEN.

To reach the page, please visit **facebook.com/groups/eaars** and **JOIN** the page. You must have a Facebook account to be part of the EAARS group.



EAARS Open Repeaters

PL 141.3 unless noted otherwise

Echolink: 614350 **IRLP:** 7787

Heliograph Peak at Safford, AZ:

146.860, 440.700 Linked

146.900, 447.8250 Not Linked

Jacks Peak at Silver City, NM:

145.210 Linked

West Peak at Ft Thomas, AZ:

145.350 Access to link to network

Pinal Peak at Globe, AZ:

145.410 Linked

South Mt at Alpine, AZ:

145.270 Linked

Caballo Mt at TorC, NM:

145.470 Linked

Greens Peak at Show Low, AZ

146.700 Linked

Little Florida at Deming, NM:

147.060 Linked

Mule Mt at Bisbee, AZ:

147.080 Linked

Mt Lemmon at Tucson, AZ

147.160 Linked

Guthrie Peak at Clifton, AZ:

147.280 Linked

Downtown at Tucson, AZ

147.28 Output

146.26 Input, **PL 127.3**

Gals on the Air!

EST. June 2015

Calling all Gals of any class ... Join us every Monday night for the
Gals Night Net @ 7:30 pm (AZ) on the EAARS system!

Facebook.com/groups/galsnightnet

Upcoming Events

*Would You like to see your event posted for the membership to see?
Email your information to emberfire@cox.net.*

2023

RST Technician Class starting **February 2nd** ending Mar 9th, 6pm @
Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Witherspoon Hall, 9252 E 22nd St
Contact Ken N7AKL, N7AKL.ken@gmail.com.

Scout Troop 157 Spaghetti Dinner at the above address. It is a "free
will donation" from 5:00 - 6:30pm.

RST Tucson Hamfest Mar 25th
Cochise Hamfest - Sierra Vista May 6th

Clubs, send me the events you would like shown here.

WEEKLY EAARS' NETS

Every day:

Down Under Net - 4:15 am

Weather Net - 5:30 am

NTS Traffic Net - 6:30 pm

**All times are noted on Arizona
time.**

Sunday:

EAARS Net - 7:00 pm

Monday:

Gals Night Net - 7:30 pm

Wednesday:

Skywarn Net - During Monsoon, Every Wednesday at 7:30 pm,

Off Season, every third Wednesday of month at 7:30 pm

Saturday:

*ERC (Emergency Response Communications) Net - 8:00 am, 2nd
Saturday of the month (20-25 min duration)*

EAARS Officers and Staff

Board Officers

President	Dan Quaintance	AF7EF
Vice President	Joe Montierth	K7JEM
Secretary/Treasurer	Larry Griggs	N5BG

Staff

Site Trustee	Joe Montierth	K7JEM
Net Manager	Chris Buchanan	N7JND
Newsletter Editor	Angie Buchanan	N7EMB

Net Control Operators

Rick	W8YBM	1st Sunday
Larry	KG7VLN	2nd Sunday
Angie	N7EMB	3rd Sunday
Chris	N7JND	4th Sunday

ARRL RADIO CONTESTS

February 2023

13-17 School Club Roundup
18-19 International DX – CW

For details on all ARRL contests and for non-ARRL contests,
visit <http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

New EAARS Members!

Terry	K4KID
Nick	KC7ARG
Jonathan	K2KKH
Jason	KL3PD
Joe	KI4TOX

Welcome
HOME

*EAARS Officers were reelected for the
upcoming year! Congrats gentlemen!*

And the Winner is ... Robert W7RLT

Robert W7RLT, from Tucson,
is the winner of the
EAARS early membership
submission for the
HRO Gift Certificate!

Congratulations!



K7RDG Winter Field Day

Here are three pictures from our winter field day out in the Dragoon mountains outside of Tombstone.

We brought out a military surplus in the NVIS antenna and decided it looked a little in need of modification, so we patriot modified it. The tent you see there was protecting us from the wind after operating outdoors for most of the event. And at the bottom you see myself and a group at our original outdoor location before we moved into the shelter of a tent. ~Andrew W7SVT



I worked a little WFD from River Falls, Wisconsin. Temp was 5 degrees but the wind was gusting to near 20 so I huddled in a somewhat sheltered area to avoid the worst of the wind. Debbie took this picture of me through the window (she was smart enough to stay inside). I am holding my FT-817 and my Chameleon vertical is visible in the background. Had to take my gloves off to tune or adjust volume so only operated for about 20 minutes (hands were freezing) but was able to work a station in Northern New York running 2.5 watts on phone using the rig's internal AA batteries! Did not operate today because it was -7 this morning (forecast is for -15 tomorrow morning)
~Lee/K7OED



***** PLEASE SET YOUR TIMEOUT TIMER *****

On the morning of January 22nd during the Weather Net, we had a stuck microphone that timed out the system preventing anyone using it. The mic was stuck open for about 30 minutes. If there would have been Emergency Traffic, they might not have been able to reach anyone.

How many of you know what TOT stands for? It's found in most 2 meter and 440 and other radios both HT's and mobiles. If you are not familiar with TOT, get ready, as you are about to know what TOT stands for. TOT stands for Time Out Timer and should be the very FIRST thing that you program into your new radio. Since we have a few new Hams operating on EAARS, it's always good to send a reminder. Here it is...

Most modern and many older FM mobiles & HT's, have a TOT setting in their menu. It's extremely important you set this value to around 3 minutes for three main reasons which are...

- Save yourself from embarrassment. Stuck mics have great ears. They like to pick up words and other sounds and discussions that you probably don't want to be transmitting. I have heard it all including some great country music. I once heard someone read a credit card number out loud, not knowing this was being transmitted around the world on EAARS because we have Streaming Audio. (I'm not kidding). And to top it off, I once heard a stuck microphone featuring someone crunching a whole bag of Doritos. Doritos have that special CRUNCH!!!
- Save Your Radio... Nothing burns out a final in a transmitter quicker than one being stuck on for hours. Most mobiles & HT's have very poor duty cycles when it comes to the transmitter being on. The finals can heat up very quickly and even the radio's heat sink can be extremely hot to touch as the heat sink is trying its best to do its job. Don't burn out your radio when the TOT can shut off your transmitter after 3 minutes and won't key up again until the PTT is released and keyed again.
- Stuck mics can tie up a repeater for a long time. Yes, most repeaters have a TOT programmed in them. However, when the repeater times out, it will usually reset in a minute or so and start transmitting the stuck mic again. But keep in mind, when there's a stuck mic on the repeater, EMERGENCY TRAFFIC MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GET THRU.

Stuck microphones are pretty much preventable just by setting your Time Out Timer and hanging the microphone up when not in use. It's one of the first things to do when you buy a new radio.

Continued on Page 8

New General Question Pool Released for Ham Radio Licensing Effective July 1, 2023

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators' (NCVEC) Question Pool Committee (QPC) has released the 2023 - 2027 General Class FCC Element 3 Syllabus and Question Pool to the public. The new General Question Pool is effective July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2027.

The new pool incorporates some significant changes compared to the 2019 - 2023 version. Its 432 questions were modified slightly to improve wording and to replace distractors; 51 new questions were generated, and 73 questions were eliminated. This resulted in a reduction of 22 questions, bringing the total number of questions in the pool down from 454. The level of difficulty of questions is more balanced, and the techniques and practices addressed have been updated.

The pool is available as a Microsoft Word document and PDF online at, <http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=369> . The single graphic required for the new General Question Pool is available within the documents, or separately as PDF and JPG file formats.

"The newly revised pool must be used for General-class license exams starting July 1, 2023," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, who is a member of the NCVEC Question Pool Committee. "New test designs will be available to ARRL Volunteer Examiners on that date. The ARRL VEC will supply its officially appointed, field-stocked VE teams with new General exam booklet designs around mid-June."

General class examination candidates preparing for their exams using the 9th edition of The General Class License Manual, and/or the 6th edition of ARRL's General Q & A are encouraged to test by, or before June 30, 2023.

Gals Night Net - Eight Year Recap

A few freely mentioned, "It has been tried." It had been a thought for so long, it just got pushed to the back of the mind. But every once in a while the husband would say, "You should try it. They weren't you." If you don't know me, let me tell you, I can talk. LOL

I cannot believe we are in the middle of our eighth year of the Gals Night Net! This net has been on the air since the first week of June of 2015. And since that very first net, we have had 94 gals check in, including myself! Wow! Kudos to all you ladies who found us!

We currently average about ten ladies per Monday night. Thank you ladies for supporting this net. I also want to thank the many gentlemen who continue to support us gals! I hope the 84 who found us once, will find us again! You are always welcomed back!

I also want to thank Ms Trish, W7FAS for stepping up and accepting my offer for alternate Net Control. She takes the reins every third Monday of the month, if you would like to tune in. And maybe you will join us every week thereafter!

We will be entering our ninth year of being on the air, June 2023. All are welcome to listen and ladies of any class, are welcome to join us every Monday night, on the EAARS Network System at 7:30 pm sharp, AZ time!

Gals Night Net Mission: To get and keep women on the air on a continuous basis. To expand our knowledge of ham radio and to get hams involved into our community. Help spread the word!

Gals Night Net
Mondays, 7:30 pm, AZ time on EAARS!

73,
Angie N7EMB

Think we can hit 100 check-ins by the end of May 2023?
That would be six new ladies checking in! Find us!

***** PLEASE SET YOUR TIMEOUT TIMER *****

Continued from Page 5

If the new radio doesn't have a TOT, don't buy it. Even our trusty Baofengs have a TOT setting in their menu. Also, put the microphone in its clip when not in use. Don't just throw it down onto the seat. Seats were not designed to be mic holders. It's just gonna get stuck open when something else is thrown on top of it. I speak from experience.

Remember you are responsible for what's being transmitted out of YOUR radio. Take preventable measures to help prevent a stuck microphone. If you would like more information on how to prevent stuck microphones, please refer to your owners manual and read the section on HANGING UP YOUR MICROPHONE. If you don't know how to set your Time Out Timer, LEARN because every radio is different. On your basic Baofeng UV5R, it's Menu Number 9. ~Chris N7JND

EAARS participated in Winter Field Day

Headed up by our president Dan – AF7EF, EAARS set up in the EAARS communication bus in Pima Arizona. Using a 9 band multiplier, a great time was had from those who participated. A big thank you to Dan for sending these photos.

Although regular Field Day in June allows us to participate in warmer weather, Winter Field Day also allows us to get out and use our radios even in cooler weather. You never know what time of year we Hams would have to deploy to assist in emergency radio communications.

Below, are some photos of the EAARS Winter Field Day exercise. Photos include the following Hams... KB7PUN – Jay, WB7QDQ – Rob, KF7UFG – Elmer, KF7LVD – Claude, W7LLE – Larry and AF7EF – Dan.



Other Club Stuff

From Diane AA3OF: RST VE Testing will be held at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Witherspoon Hall, 9252 E 22nd St, at 7pm.

2023	Feb 13	Apr 10	July 10	Oct 9
	March 13	May 8	Aug 14	Nov 13
		June 12	Sep 11	Dec 11

If you live in the Graham or Greenlee County and are interested in a VE Testing Session, please feel free to contact Dan Quaintance AF7EF, (928) 235-1152.

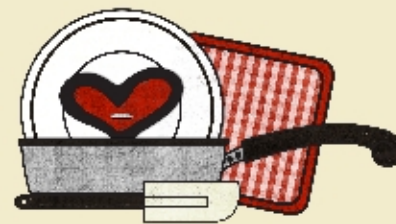
Up and at 'em !!!
with the
Made it through the Night Gang Weather Net
0530 Mountain Standard Time Daily
on the EAARS Repeater System
Weather and Conversation
Get a handle on the local weather from your fellow HAM operators around
the EAARS coverage area and get to know them better.

W7GSP - Steve
Net Control
K1VM/N7CDW Keith/Carrie
Weather Recorders

EAARS

**Do you have any club news to share? It can be posted on this page.
Send your info to Angie - emberfire@cox.net.**

Cooking up
Some Magic



Brown Butter - Basted Steak

Want to plan a Romantic Valentine's Dinner for your Love? Why not try this yummy steak? Courtesy of bonappetit.com.

How to make steakhouse-quality steak at home. Step 1: Buy a great steak from a great butcher. Step 2: Salt it liberally. Step 3: Gradually build up a crusty sear. Step 4: Butter. Butter?! Yep—butter. Browned, nutty butter will deliver toasty flavor to every bite. It's the secret to pretty much all the great steakhouse dinners you've ever had. Serve with some mashed potatoes and a salad. Mmmmmm Guarantees you a big hug!

Ingredients

- 1 1¾"-thick bone-in rib eye (about 1½ lb.)
- Kosher salt, freshly ground pepper
- 2 tsp. vegetable oil
- 3 Tbsp. unsalted butter
- 2 sprigs rosemary
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- Flaky sea salt



Preparation

Step 1. Season steak generously with kosher salt and pepper and let sit at room temperature 1 hour.

Step 2. Heat a dry large skillet, preferably cast iron, over medium-high, then add oil. As soon as oil is smoking, cook steak, turning every 2 minutes or so, until a deep brown crust forms and the internal temperature is a few degrees below your favored doneness (120°–125° for medium-rare), 8–10 minutes.

Step 3. Add butter, rosemary, and garlic to skillet, tilt pan toward you so that butter pools on one side, and use a large spoon to continually baste steak with butter. Continue until butter is no longer bubbling and it smells nutty and is beginning to brown, about 1 minute. Transfer meat to a cutting board and let rest 10 minutes. (For medium-rare, your steak should reach an internal temperature of 125°–130°.)

Step 4. Cut meat from bone and slice against the grain 1" thick. Spoon some infused brown butter over steak and sprinkle with sea salt.



Happy Valentine's Day!



-10-

kiss the
cook